Digital Humanities Start-Up Grants
April 2009 Deadline
Contact: odh@neh.gov

Alexandria Archive Institute -- San Francisco, CA
The Open Modern Art Collection of Iraq: Web tools for Documenting, Sharing and Enriching Iraqi Artistic Expressions
Nada Shabout, Project Director
Outright: $50,000
To support: The creation of a database with community input to reassemble the partially dispersed and lost collections of the Iraqi Museum of Modern Art in Baghdad.

Apprend Foundation -- Durham, NC
CRAFTING FREEDOM ALONG NC 86:DISCOVERING HIDDEN HISTORY WITH MOBILE TECHNOLOGY
Laurel Sneed, Project Director
Outright: $25,000
To support: Creation of an open-source platform for a mobile technology tour of North Carolina state highway 86, exploring sites of significance in African American History.

Brown University -- Providence, RI
Semantically Rich Tools for Text Exploration
Andrew Ashton, Project Director
Outright: $48,661
To support: Creation of a suite of software tools designed to allow humanists to analyze large collections or archives of TEI encoded texts in the new Software Environment for the Advancement of Scholarly Research (SEASR).

Buffalo and Erie County Public Library -- Buffalo, NY
"Re-Collecting the Depression and New Deal as a Civic Resource in Hard Times"
Anne Conable, Project Director
Outright: $25,000
To support: Development of a prototype for an open-source digital repository for materials relating to the history of the Great Depression and New Deal in western New York.

California State University, Dominguez Hills Foundation -- Carson, CA
New Approaches: Tradeswomen Archive Project (TAP)
Vivian Price, Project Director
Outright: $25,000
To support: A Level I planning grant to create a virtual museum and augment the holdings of a physical collection with primary artifacts about women who work in non-traditional blue-collar trades.

Claremont McKenna College -- Claremont, CA
Virtual Taxila: A Web-Accessible, Multi-User Virtual Environment (MUVE) of an Ancient Indian City
Daniel Michon, Project Director
Outright: $49,715
To support: Reconstruction of the ancient city of Taxila (located in modern Pakistan) through computer modeling, including animated and interactive "inhabitants," with public access via the Internet.

CUNY Research Foundation, NYC College of Technology -- Brooklyn, NY

Looking For Whitman: The Poetry of Place in the Life and Work of Walt Whitman - Level 2

Matthew Gold, Project Director

Outright: $33,235

To support: The piloting of a series of courses at three institutions that would engage students in online investigations of Walt Whitman's work in geographical context that would conclude with a conference on material culture and Whitman.

Dartmouth College -- Hanover, NH

Digital Humanities Start Up Grant: Metadata Games -- An Open Source Electronic Game for Archival Data Systems

Mary Flanagan, Project Director

Outright: $49,015

To support: Development of an open source computer game for the Internet that would supplement library metadata on holdings in collections with descriptions provided by the public.

Electronic Literature Organization -- College Park, MD

Electronic Literature Directory: Collaborative Knowledge Management for the Literary Humanities

Joseph Tabbi, Project Director

Outright: $47,870

To support: The development of a descriptive metadata vocabulary and the redesign of the Electronic Literature Directory website using open source content management and social networking software.

Itasca Community College -- Grand Rapids, MN

GIBAGADINAMAAGOOM: AN OJIBWE DIGITAL ARCHIVE

Timothy Powell, Project Director

Outright: $24,918

To support: A series of planning meetings to redesign a digital archive of Ojibwe historical and cultural resources to allow for multiple user interfaces and more extensive categorization of materials.

Loyola College in Maryland -- Baltimore, MD

The Journalism History Hub: Developing a Research-based Interdisciplinary Social Network and Meta-Conference

Elliott King, Project Director

Outright: $48,370

To support: The development of a social network and repository system, called the Journalism History Hub, to support the field of history of journalism and to serve as a model for communities from other interdisciplinary fields.

Loyola University, Chicago -- Chicago, IL

Humanities Research Infrastructure and Tools (HRIT): An Environment for Collaborative Textual Scholarship

Peter Shillingsburg, Project Director

Outright: $50,000

To support: Development of a collaborative online editing environment and tagging tool for producing electronic scholarly editions and text archives.

Marist College -- Poughkeepsie, NY

A DIGITAL PATHFINDER FOR HISTORIC SITES

Ron Coleman, Project Director

Outright: $49,981

To support: Development of a hand-held GPS personal data assistant for tours of historic sites.

University of Massachusetts, Amherst -- Amherst, MA
OCRonym: Entity Extraction and Retrieval for Scanned Books
James Allan, Project Director
Outright: $50,000
To support: Development of an extraction and retrieval system for named entities-people, places, organizations-located across a large number of documents in order to use the system to track Optical Character Recognition (OCR) error rates in an effort to improve "noisy" OCR.

University of Montana -- Missoula, MT
Computer-Based Data Processing and Management for Blackfoot Phonetics and Phonology
Mizuki Miyashita, Project Director
Outright: $24,999
To support: Development of a database to store and manage sound clips of the Blackfoot language.

University of Nebraska, Board of Regents -- Lincoln, NE
centerNet: Cyberinfrastructure for the Digital Humanities
Katherine Walter, Project Director
Outright: $50,000
To support: A series of meetings, concluding with an international summit, to plan for future activities of an international network of digital humanities centers.

University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill -- Chapel Hill, NC
Main Street, Carolina: Uncovering and Reclaiming the History of Downtown
Natalia Smith, Project Director
Outright: $50,000
To support: Development of an open-source framework for accessing the UNC Library's collection of original Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps, indexed to a wide range of primary source material.

University of South Carolina Research Foundation -- Columbia, SC
The Sapheos Project: Transparency in Multi-image Collation, Analysis, and Representation
Randall Cream, Project Director
Outright: $49,918
To support: Development of an online collation tool to allow for analysis and display of multiple page images along with software that identifies and links to specific points, letters, words, and images on the page.

University of Southern California -- Los Angeles, CA
The Cambridge World Shakespeare Encyclopedia: An International Digital Resource for Study, Teaching, and Research
Bruce Smith, Project Director
Outright: $24,901
To support: A collaborative effort by Cambridge University Press (CUP) and the Center for Transformative Scholarship (CTS) at the University of Southern California to develop an encyclopedia dedicated to Shakespearian studies that aggregates research data and allows users to map paths through the resources.

University of Virginia -- Charlottesville, VA
Neatline_Geospatial_Interpretation_of_Archival_Collections
Bethany Nowviskie, Project Director
Outright: $34,656
To support: Creation of an open source tool that integrates timelines and maps to literary and historical materials in archival collections to strengthen the visualization of research.

Western Reserve Historical Society -- Cleveland, OH
(AI)2 Artificially Intelligent Artifact Interpreter
Edward Pershey, Project Director
Outright: $49,384
To support: The development and evaluation of a prototype of a virtual museum docent employing Radio Frequency Identification tags and artificial intelligence for use in interactive history museum exhibitions.